DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY AND CORRECTIONS

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P and P Officers Locate 90% of Sex Offenders Under Supervision

Arrest Warrants Issued for Remaining 10%

(New Orleans) Arrest warrants have been issued for sex offenders under the supervision of the Louisiana Department of Public Safety and Corrections – Division of Probation and Parole who have not reported their whereabouts in the wake of the devastation caused by Hurricanes Katrina and Rita.

Officers in the four probation and parole districts in the greater New Orleans area (Jefferson, Orleans, St. Bernard and Plaquemines parishes) supervise 246 sex offenders. To date, 205 offenders have been located, either in Louisiana or another state. In consultation with criminal court judges in the area, probation and parole officers have obtained arrest warrants or are requesting warrants for those offenders who have failed to comply with the terms of their supervision by not notifying the Department of temporary or permanent housing/shelter plans. Information on sex offender warrant cases, including offense and offender photographs, can be found on the Department's website at www.doc.louisiana.gov.

Probation and Parole officers in the Covington District (St. Tammany and Washington Parishes) have located all of their 115 sex offender supervision cases. All but two of the 111 sex offenders in the Lake Charles District (Cameron, Calcasieu and Jefferson Davis), temporarily displaced due to Hurricane Rita, have been located. One arrest warrant has been issued and another is pending.

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The Department has taken a number of measures to ensure sex offender compliance. A list of supervised sex offenders potentially displaced by Hurricane Katrina was posted on the

Department's website within a week after Hurricane Katrina, along with numbers offenders

should use to report their temporary addresses. That list was also sent to numerous

agencies, including the national office of the Interstate Compact for Adult Supervision, the

Texas Department Criminal Justice's Parole Division, the Houston Police Department and

other law enforcement agencies. Probation and Parole officers across Louisiana made site

visits to Red Cross and other shelters to locate offenders and set up supervisory plans.

Flyers with contact information for offenders to report their whereabouts were posted in

those shelters. The Department continues to work with authorities across the country,

including the U.S. Marshals Service to locate offenders, even going door to door in the New

Orleans area now that some people have begun to return.

"I'm extremely proud of the efforts of all probation and parole officers in the days and weeks

after Hurricanes Katrina and Rita," said DPS&C Secretary Richard L. Stalder. "Certainly,

their efforts in tracking and locating supervised sex offenders in the aftermath of the two

hurricanes has made a difference in overall public safety."

Of the four district offices in the New Orleans – Jefferson, New Orleans East, New Orleans

West and St. Bernard, only one office is operational. More than 75 Probation and Parole

officers, supervisors and support staff are all working out of the New Orleans West Office at

this point in time.

"Despite devastating personal losses, Probation and Parole staff in the affected areas have

made tremendous strides in locating offenders," said Probation and Parole Division Director

Genie Powers. "We will continue to work with our state and national law enforcement

partners to make sure we bring offenders under compliance no matter the circumstances."

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EMPLOYER SUPPORT OF THE GUARD AND RESERVE Please note that Corrections Services is only responsible for those sex offenders under probation or parole supervision. Louisiana State Police maintains a database of individuals required to update information annually on the Louisiana Sex Offender Registry. You can access that registry by visiting www.lasocpr.lsp.org/socpr/.

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